Aug. 11, 1953 A. J. BICKEL 2,648,547

BOOKKEEPING DEVICE

Filed Dec. 19, 1949 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 2

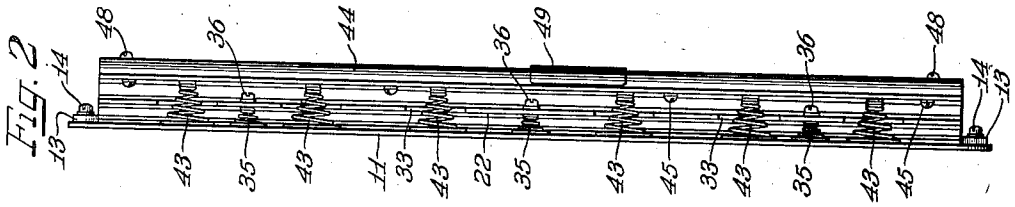
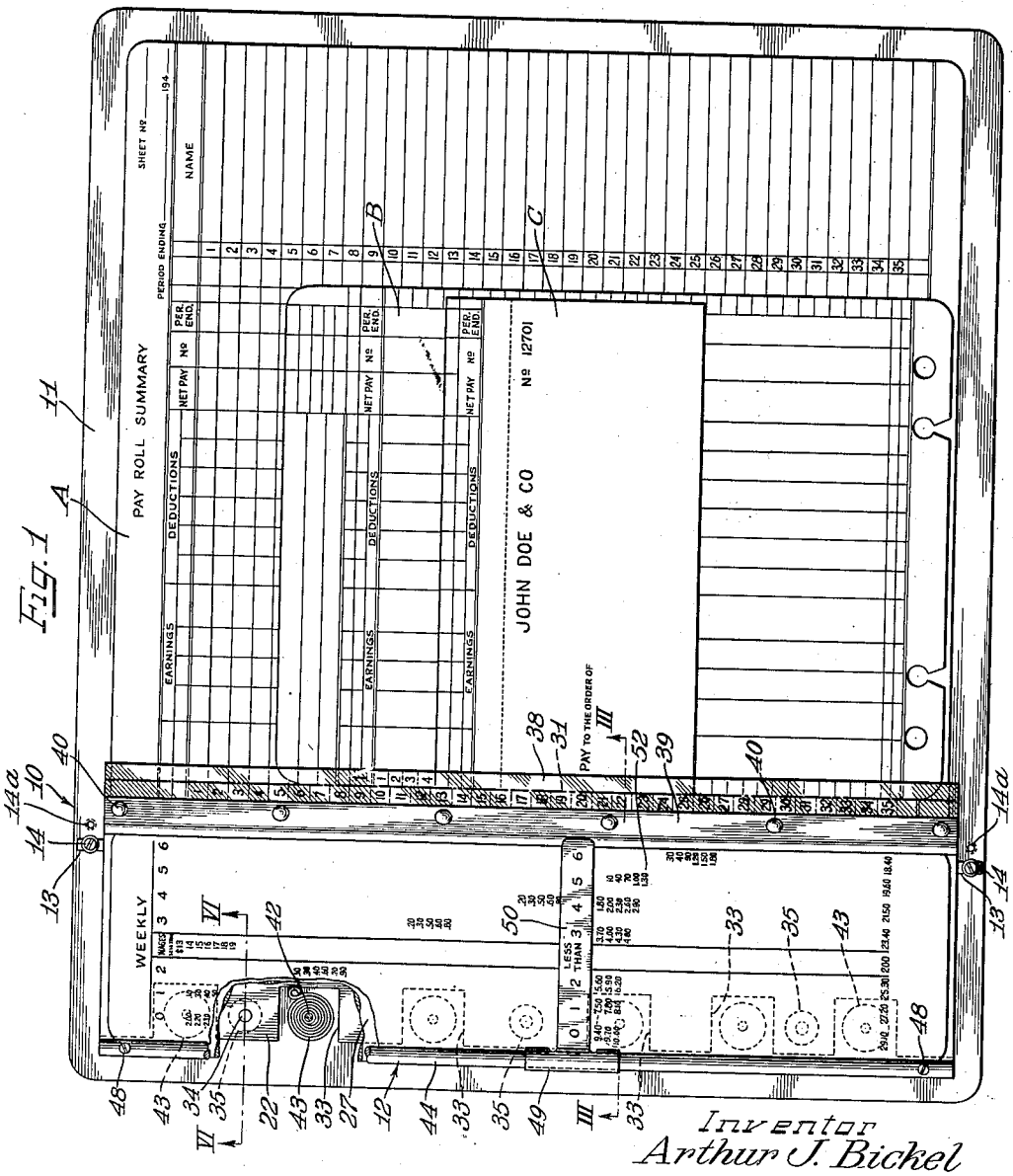


Fig. 1



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Fig. 3

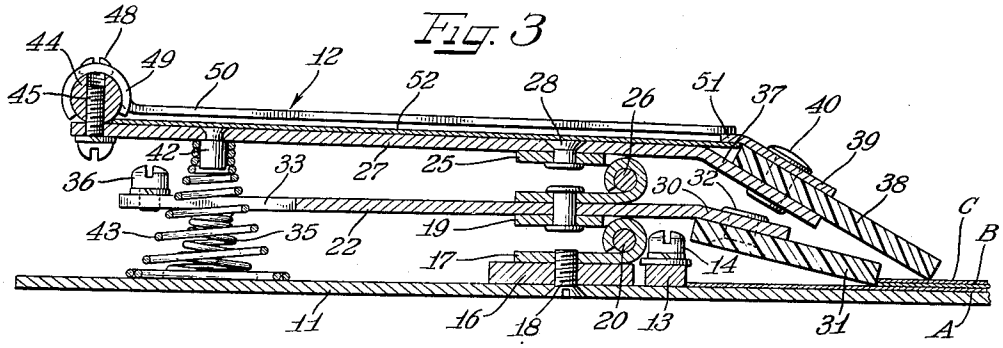


Fig. 4

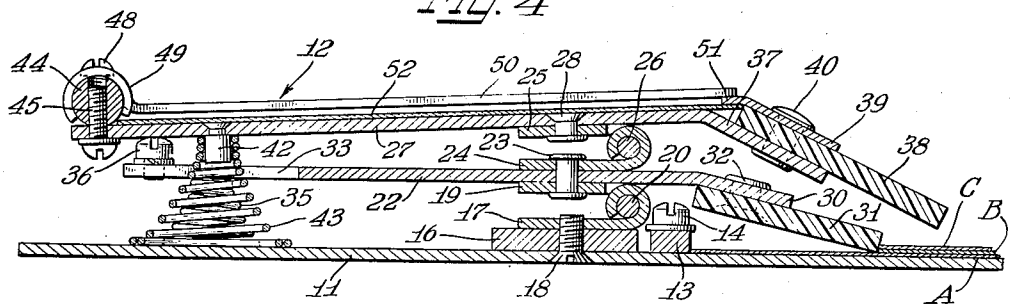


Fig. 5

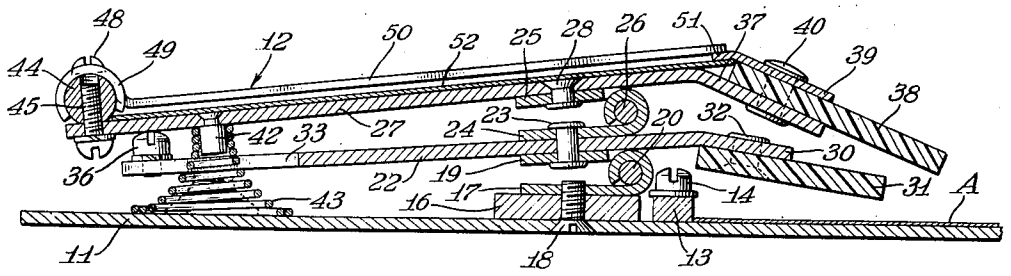
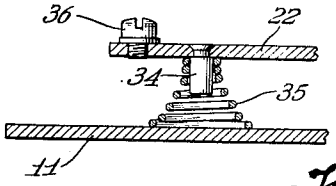


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,648,547

BOOKKEEPING DEVICE

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Application December 19, 1949, Serial No. 133,858

4 Claims. (Cl. 282—29)

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The present invention relates to a bookkeeping device and more particularly to a device for maintaining a plurality of superimposed bookkeeping forms in relatively adjusted, aligned position so that a bookkeeping entry may be recorded upon each of the forms from a single entry made on the uppermost of the forms.

The instant application is a continuation in part of my earlier filed, co-pending application entitled "Bookkeeping Device," Serial No. 732,402, filed in the United States Patent Office on March 5, 1947, now Patent No. 2,549,956, issued April 24, 1951 and assigned to the assignee of the instant application.

Various forms of bookkeeping devices have been heretofore provided for the purpose of simplifying the entry of bookkeeping indicia upon a plurality of superimposed, aligned accounting forms. However, such devices have proved generally unsatisfactory for a number of reasons, including the initial expense of such devices and complexity of the procedure of aligning the forms and making the requisite entries. Also, the prior art devices generally have not accurately positioned the forms in the desired position and have not maintained the forms in such position without interference with normal use of the forms. The present invention now provides a simple, inexpensively manufactured, readily employed device for effectively maintaining a plurality of forms in a desired position.

The device of the present invention comprises generally a posting board having one surface adapted for the reception of a bookkeeping form, such as a ledger page. A clamping assembly extends along one marginal edge of the posting board, the assembly providing means for maintaining not only the ledger page but a plurality of forms superimposed thereon in position on the posting board. The assembly may suitably include a plurality of superimposed clamping plates having terminal edges for engaging a corresponding portion of the posting board, the plate edges being resiliently urged thereagainst by spring means interposed between the plate and the board outside the working area of the board. The clamping plates are hinged together and to the board so that the plates may be simultaneously or individually removed from contact with the board working surface to permit selective insertion and removal of the forms from clamped position.

The advantages residing in the present invention will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art and include the ready installation and

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removal of blank forms, the selective clamping action of the clamping plates, and the positive hinged interconnection of the plates for cooperative movement as desired. The flexibility of this arrangement and the ease of its employment will be self-evident.

It is, therefore, an important object of the present invention to provide an improved bookkeeping device in which a plurality of superimposed blank forms are maintained in a desired position upon the posting board for the entry of indicia upon each of the forms.

Another important object of the present invention is to provide an improved bookkeeping device including a posting board and a plurality of coacting clamping plates resiliently urged against the board to maintain blank accounting forms in position thereon.

An additional important object of the present invention is to provide an improved accounting device in which a plurality of clamping members are hinged together for movement towards and away from a posting board to maintain a plurality of accounting forms in aligned position upon the board.

It is a further important object of the present invention to provide an improved accounting device including a posting board adapted to receive a plurality of accounting forms against one surface thereof, a clamping member for maintaining certain of said forms in position on the board, a second clamping member for maintaining additional forms in position on the board, and means innerconnecting the clamping members for pivoting movement relative to one another and to the board for permitting the ready installation and removal of the accounting forms.

Yet another important object of the present invention is to provide an accounting board in which a plurality of clamping members are urged against a posting board, the members being hinged together for relative independent and joint pivoting movement, with means being provided for resiliently biasing the clamping members against the board to maintain the clamped forms thereon in aligned position.

Other and further important objects of this invention will be apparent from the disclosures in the specification and the accompanying drawings.

On the drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan elevational view with parts broken away illustrating the employment of a bookkeeping device of the present invention;

Figure 2 is an end elevational view of the device of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken along the plane III—III of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a sectional view similar to Figure 3 illustrating the position of certain elements of the device upon relative movement thereof;

Figure 5 is a sectional view similar to Figure 4 illustrating the position of certain elements of the device upon further movement thereof; and

Figure 6 is a sectional view, with parts shown in elevation, taken along the plane VI—VI of Figure 1.

As shown on the drawings:

In Figure 1, reference numeral **10** refers generally to a bookkeeping device of the present invention including a generally rectangular posting board **11** and a clamping assembly **12** secured to one marginal portion of the board **11**.

More particularly, the clamping assembly **12** includes an elongated stop bar **13** extending across substantially the entire width of the board **11** and secured to the upper surface thereof by suitable means, as by screws **14**. Additional screw holes **14***a* are provided to accommodate longitudinal adjustment of the stop bar **13**. A hinge plate **16** is also secured to the board **11** to extend thereacross parallel to the stop bar **13**. A hinge leaf **17** abuts the upper surface of the hinge support **16** and is secured thereto by means of a screw **18** which also serves to maintain the hinge plate **16** in fixed position upon the board **11**. The hinge leaf **17** is pivotally secured to a second hinge leaf **19** by means of a pintle **20** which extends into the double-back end portions of the conventional hinge leaves **17** and **19**. An inner hinged clamping plate **22** is secured to the hinge leaf **19** intermediate the end of the plate by means of a rivet **23**.

A second hinge leaf **24** is secured to that surface of the hinge plate **22** opposite the hinge leaf **19** by the rivet **23**, and to a second hinge leaf **25** by means of a pintle **26** identical with the pintle hereinbefore described. The hinge leaf **25** is secured to an outer clamping plate **27** by means of a rivet **28**.

It will thus be seen that the clamping plates **22** and **27** are thus secured together for relative pivoting movement about spaced pivoting points determined by the pintles **20** and **26**. The plates are maintained in superimposed spaced relation to the board **11** adjacent a marginal portion of the board so as to extend across the width of the board without interfering with the working surface thereof. The hinges may be coextensive with the length of the plate or separate hinges spaced along the length of the plate may be employed.

The inner marginal portion of the plate **27** is deflected downwardly and inwardly, as at **30**, towards the board **11** and a strip **31** of a suitable transparent plastic material, such as methylmethacrylate or the like, is secured to the downturned edge portion **30** by suitable means, as by rivets **32**. That edge portion of the plate **22** opposite the downturned edge portion **30** is notched, as at **33**, at spaced position along its length for a purpose to be hereinafter more fully described, and those portions of the plate **22** intermediate the notches **33** each carry a dependent post **34** riveted or otherwise secured to the plate and entered axially in the reduced end of a frusto-conical helical coil spring **35** confined between the plate **22** and the board **11**. Each of the springs **35** thus urges the plate **22** about the pintle **20** into resilient engagement with the posting board **11**. A screw **36** is received by the plate **22** adjacent the post **34** to extend thereabove toward the outer plate **24** for a purpose to be hereinafter more fully described.

The marginal portion of the upper plate **27** overlying the deflected portion **30** of the inner plate **22** is likewise deflected downwardly, as at **37**. The deflected portion **37** carries along the length thereof an edge strip **38** of transparent plastic material similar to the material **31** hereinbefore described, the strip **38** being confined between the downturned portion **37** of the plate **27** and a separate edge strip **39** secured to the plate **27** by suitable means as by a rivet **40** extending through the strip **38**. It will be seen that the strips **31** and **38** engage transversely spaced portions of the plate **31** with the contact portions of the strip being parallel and extending across substantially the entire width of the board as illustrated in Figure 1.

A plurality of depending posts **42** are carried by the plate **27** adjacent said margin thereof opposite the downturned portion **37**. The posts **42** are positioned to be vertically aligned with the edge apertures **33** of the plate **22** and laterally aligned with the posts **34** of the plate **22**. A frusto-conical helical coil spring **43** surrounds each of the posts **42** and is confined between the plate **27** and the board **11** to resiliently urge the plate **27** about the pintle **26** into resilient engagement with the board **11**.

A guide rod **44** extends along the length of the plate **27** immediately adjacent that end remote from the strip **38**, the rod being secured to the plate **27** by suitable means, as by screws **45**. A stop screw **48** is positioned adjacent each extreme end of the guide rod **44** and a slide **49** is provided with a terminal, generally semi-cylindrical housing **49** partially encircling the rod **44** and guided therealong for movement. An indicating finger **50** is formed integrally with the housing **49** and extends therefrom to overlie the plate **27** in spaced relation thereto into sliding contact with the inturned marginal edge **51** of the member **39**. The indicating finger **50** is employed in conjunction with an indicia bearing card **52** which is inserted within spaced parallel guide ways defined by the upper surface of the plate **27** and the guide rod **44**, and the upper surface of the plate **27** and the inturned marginal portion **51** of the plate **39**, respectively. The finger is thus journalled by the guide rod **44** for movement along the card **52** and along the length of the plate **27**.

The device hereinbefore described may be employed for a variety of bookkeeping operations, as for example in connection with the preparation of a pay roll. In the embodiment of the invention as shown in Figure 1, reference character A refers to a pay roll summary sheet on which a master roll of employees is inscribed together with columns providing space for entry of earnings, deductions, net pay, and other indicia pertaining to the pay of each individual. Reference numeral B refers to the individual pay roll record of each employee also bearing space for the reception of indicia relating to the earnings, deductions, net pay and the like of the individual. Reference character C refers to the individual's pay roll check bearing at its upper edge marginal indicia relating to the earnings, deductions, net pay, etc., which forms a record given to the employee with his check. The upper marginal strip of the check C is perforated so as to be readily separable, and the strip bears on its back side a carbon transfer medium. An additional carbon transfer

medium is interposed between individual record B and the master summary A. The card 52 bears on its face an income tax schedule setting forth in transverse and longitudinal aligned rows data relating to the withholding tax at a given wage and a given number of deductible dependents. It will be seen that upon movement of the indicating finger 50, the proper amount of the withholding tax may be readily ascertained.

In use, the left hand marginal portion of the pay roll master sheet A is inserted under the strip 31 carried by the inner clamping plate 22, the sheet A being inserted into abutment with the stop 13. Any indicia adjacent the clamped margin of the sheet A is readily visible through the transparent strips 31 and 38 of the plates 22 and 27 respectively.

Next, the sheets B and C are inserted beneath the strip 38 and are maintained in position therein so as to overlie the master sheet A. Each of the sheets A and B is provided with numerical indicia adjacent the left hand margin and this indicia is visible through the transparent strips 31 and 38 and permits the ready alignment of the sheet, with the sheet C being inserted over the other two sheets so that an entry upon the check is also recorded upon the sheets A and B.

The mechanical operation of the device 10 is illustrated in Figures 3, 4 and 5. It will be seen that upon initially depressing the member 27 in the action of the coil spring 43, the edge of the strip 38 is lifted from its engagement with the board 11 or with the sheet C, as the case may be. Upon further depression of the plate 27, the under surface of the plate engages the stop screw 36 carried by the inner plate 22 so that continued depression of the plate 27 will depress the corresponding portion of the plate 22 against the action of the spring 35. The posts 34 serve to limit movement of the plates against the respective springs by abutting the posting board 11. The stop 13 positions the sheet A on the board 11, while the edge of the strip 31 which is parallel to the stop 13 serves as a stop for the sheets B and C.

It will, therefore, be seen that the present invention provides an improved bookkeeping or accounting device in which a plurality of superimposed accounting forms may be maintained in position upon a posting board 11 by means of a clamping assembly 12. The assembly includes a plurality of clamping plates 22 and 27 which are capable of individual or joint movement to permit the positioning of sheets between the plates and the boards for later clamping therebetween. In addition, one of the clamping plates may be moved to a limited degree without disturbing the other plate so as to permit the selective removal of one or more of a plurality of sheets.

It will be understood that modifications and variations may be effected without departing from the scope of the novel concepts of the present invention.

I claim as my invention:

1. A bookkeeping record comprising a posting board having a plane upper surface adapted to receive a plurality of accounting records having marginal indicia thereon, a first clamping plate extending along one side margin of the board in spaced relation to said upper surface and having a transparent depending marginal portion providing a straight edge for coaction with said upper surface to retain a first record thereon with its indicia visible through the transparent marginal portion, means pivotally connecting said first plate and said board, resilient means interposed between said first plate and said board to urge said edge toward said board, a second plate also extending along the margin of said board in spaced relation to said first plate and having a transparent depending marginal portion providing a straight edge for coaction with said upper surface in spaced parallel relation to said first plate edge for contacting a second accounting record with the marginal indicia thereof and the marginal indicia of said first record being visible through the transparent marginal portions of said plates, means pivotally connecting said second plate to said first plate, and resilient means confined between said second plate and said board for urging the edge portion of said second plate into contact with said board surface.

2. A bookkeeping device comprising a posting board, a pair of vertically spaced superimposed generally parallel clamping plates pivotally secured to one another and to said board in spaced relation to the upper surface of said board, said plates each having one dependent marginal edge extending toward the upper surface of said board and an opposing marginal portion, said opposing marginal portion of the lower of said plates underlying the corresponding portion of the upper of said plates and having apertures spaced along the length thereof, coil springs resiliently confined between the lower of said plates and the upper surface of said board for urging the dependent marginal edge of said lower plate into contact with the upper surface of said board, said springs contacting said opposing marginal portion of said lower plate intermediate said apertures, and independent additional coil springs resiliently confined between the opposing marginal portion of the upper plate and the upper surface of said board and projecting through the apertures of said lower plate for resiliently urging the depending edge of the upper plate into contact with said board.

3. A bookkeeping device, comprising: a posting board, a first clamping member having a marginal edge portion adapted to retain a record on said board, first hinge means between said board and an intermediate portion of said first clamping member parallel to said marginal edge portion thereof, first compression spring means between said first clamping member and said board for urging said marginal edge portion thereof toward said board, a second clamping member overlying said first clamping member and having a depending marginal edge portion adapted to retain a record on said board, second hinge means connecting an intermediate portion of said second clamping member to said first clamping member adjacent said intermediate portion thereof, and second compression spring means between said second clamping member and said board for urging said depending marginal edge portion thereof toward said board.

4. A bookkeeping device, comprising: a posting board, a first generally rectangular plate disposed in spaced relation over a portion of said board, first clamp means along one edge of said first plate arranged for resiliently clamping a record to said board, first hinge means securing an intermediate portion of said first plate to said board for pivotal movement of said first plate about a first axis parallel to said one edge of said first plate, compression spring means between said first plate and said board on the side of said axis removed from said one edge of said plate to thereby urge said clamping means to-

ward said board, a second generally rectangular plate superimposed in spaced relation over said first plate, second clamping means along one edge of said second plate arranged for resiliently clamping a record to said board and spaced a distance from said first axis greater than the distance from said first axis to said first clamping means so that said first clamping means acts as an edge guide in clamping records to said board with said second clamping means, second hinge means securing an intermediate portion of said second plate to said first plate for pivotal movement about a second axis generally parallel to and above said first axis, compression spring means engaging said board and engaging the underside of said second plate on the side of said first and second axes removed from said clamping means, and stop means between said first and second plates on the side of said axes removed from said clamping means arranged for movement of only said second clamping means away from said board with pressures up to a predetermined pressure applied to the portion of said second plate on the side of said axes removed from said

clamping means and for movement of both of said clamping means away from said board with a substantially greater pressure applied to said portion of said second plate.

ARTHUR J. BICKEL.

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